(a) whether Railways has floated a global tender for setting up new factories at Majerhat and Dalmianagar for manufacturing of high capacity freight bogies;

(b) if so, the number of freight bogies envisaged to be manufactured from those units;

(c) the total investment and land required for the proposed factories;

(d) whether vacant land of M/s Buru Standard can be utilized for (a) above; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) At this stage there is no such proposal.

(e) Do not arise.

Maintenance of Kalindi Express

3377. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the maintenance of Kalindi Express is not upto the mark;

(b) whether Government is aware that there are large scale malpractices and irregularities by the railway staff and GRP in Kalindi Express and that they sell seats and berths to general ticket holders by ignoring the RAC and wait listed passengers;

(c) whether Government would conduct surprise raids so as to find out the truth; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The maintenance of Kalindi Express is carried out in accordance with extant norms and guidelines for maintenance of coaches as for other Mail/Express trains and no complaints on this matter have been received in the recent past.

(b) to (d) No specific complaints have been received regarding large scale malpractices and irregularities by railway staff and GRP in Kalindi Express in allotting seats/berths. However, some cases of staff indulging in irregularities with regard to allotment of seats/berths on trains do come to notice. Regular drives/checks are conducted and staff found indulging in such malpractices is taken up severely under relevant rules.

Ongoing works and projects in different zones

3378. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the ongoing works and projects in different zones of Railways as at present; and

(b) the plans for the remaining period of the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The Zone-wise details of ongoing railway projects is available in Railway Budget documents 2009-10.

(b) 250 km of new lines, 1300 km of gauge conversion and 700 km of doubling is targeted for completion during the current financial year.

Railway recruitment examination

3379. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to hold railway recruitment examination on a single day in the entire country to curb the malpractices in the railway recruitment;

(b) if so, the details of plan to conduct such examination on the same day throughout the country; and

(c) the steps being taken to prevent existing corruption in railway recruitment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) In order to make the recruitment process more transparent and fair, it has been decided to hold the examination for a particular category on the same date simultaneously by all the Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs). A nodal RRB has been nominated for each category. The nodal Railway Recruitment Board will issue Centralized Employment Notice on behalf of all concerned RRBs alongwith other details. Individual RRB will also issue indicative Employment Notice(s). The candidates can submit the application to any RRB but will be able to appear in the examination only at one place.

(c) A well laid down system/procedure is already in existence for conducting recruitment to various posts in Indian Railways. Whenever any case of irregularity or complaint is received, the matter is duly investigated and based on the investigation, deterrent/preventive action is taken.

Expansion of computerized rail network

†3380. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways has expanded the network of its computerized rail ticket counters in the entire country;

(b) if so, the details of such counters, State-wise and region-wise;

(c) whether certain railway stations are yet to be computerized in the country; and

---

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.